

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
WORTLEY

(2)

(3)

INTERIM
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1941

J. MAIN RUSSELL

M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), B.Hy., D.P.H. (Dunelm)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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WORTLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1941**

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 „ H. E. Boswell (Vice-Chairman)
 „ W. J. Leverington, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)
 „ Mrs. E. Hayes
 „ Mrs. E. Stevenson
 „ Mrs. E. Wragg, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.
 „ H. C. Barraclough (Resigned July, 1941)
 „ F. Chambers, J.P.
 „ J. F. Frost
 „ T. W. Hulley, J.P.
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 „ W. H. Marlow, J.P.
 „ G. E. Plant
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 „ W. Ward
 „ T. Whittington (Elected August 1941)

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 Cert. M. & F.I.
 CLERK — — — — — MISS F. MARSHALL

To the Chairman and Members of the **Wortley Rural District Council**

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to submit an Interim Report on the Health Services of the Wortley Rural District Council for the year ended 31st December, 1941.

Like the reports for 1939 and 1940, that for 1941 is again an Interim Report only. It is hoped to produce a full comprehensive report containing relevant details for the war period up to the end of the full year after the termination of the war.

The Ministry of Health have placed a restriction upon the publication of statistics in the 1941 Report in that nothing can be published which may enable any substantial series of local populations to be reconstructed. Therefore, on the grounds of national security no such tables are to be found in this Report.

I can inform you, however, that the vital statistics for 1941 are very encouraging. The Deaths are considerably fewer than in 1940. The exigencies of the national situation have been such that the Registrar-General has been unable to secure a "comparability factor" and the preparation of and issue of such factors are being suspended under present conditions. This fact means therefore, that no attempt can be made to make a comparison between the Death Rate of any two particular districts. The number of Births is also less. It is most

gratifying indeed to observe that the Maternal Mortality Rate is again nil, as in 1940, and also that the Infantile Mortality incidence is the lowest on record in this District.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the Clerk and other officials of this Council, and the staff of the Health Department for their unfailing help and co-operation during the past year.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
J. MAIN RUSSELL.
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS

The Wortley Rural District covers an area of 48,697 acres. The district is divided into four parishes:—Ecclesfield, Bradfield, Tankersley and Wortley. The approximate acreage for each is as follows:—

Parish	Acreage	No. of Dwelling Houses
Ecclesfield	6,147	5,107
Bradfield	35,134	2,876
Tankersley	2,436	559
Wortley	4,980	187
Total	48,697	8,729

The rateable value of the district is £193.764, while the product of a penny rate is £754 13s. 4d., as at December, 1940.

VITAL STATISTICS

Population. The Registrar-General has given a figure but such cannot be published in this Report as requested in Circular 2604 of the Ministry of Health, dated 24th March, 1941.

The excess of births over deaths was 144.

Births. During the year there were 442 live births—213 male and 229 female, a decrease of 46 over 1940 figures. There were 17 illegitimate births.

Still Births. During the year there were 22 Still Births, 13 male and 9 female, an increase of 1 over 1940 figures. There was 1 illegitimate Still Birth.

Deaths. The number of deaths credited to this District in 1941 was 298, — 167 male and 131 female, a decrease of 51 compared to 1940.

TABLE SHOWING AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

Age Group	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Under 1 year	18	16	10	24	9
1 — 2 years	1	4	4	3	6
2 — 5 years	2	3	5	6	6
5 — 15 years	6	13	3	5	0
15 — 25 years	6	7	11	7	8
25 — 45 years	21	22	22	30	31
45 — 65 years	80	81	81	82	96
65 years and over	159	141	151	192	142
TOTAL	293	287	287	349	298

The table shows a marked decrease in deaths in the “under 1 year” group and in the “65 and over” group. A slight increase in the “45 to 65 years” group still continues.

Infantile Mortality. Nine deaths, 4 male and 5 female occurred amongst infants under 1 year. This is the lowest incidence on record in the District—the previous lowest being in 1939.

The following table gives the details of the Infantile Mortality figures in comparative form:—

Cause of Death			Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	.....	.....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital and Wasting Diseases			2	1	—	1	4	1	—	—	—	5
Convulsions	.....	.....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	.....	.....	—	—	—	—	0	1	—	—	—	1
Pycogenic Meningitis			—	—	—	—	0	—	—	1	—	1
TOTAL	.....	.....	4	1	—	1	6	2	—	1	—	9
1940	.....	.....	7	1	2	2	12	6	2	3	1	24
1939	.....	.....	8	—	—	—	8	—	1	1	—	10
1938	.....	.....	6	1	3	1	11	2	1	2	1	16
1937	.....	.....	11	—	1	—	12	1	3	2	—	18
1936	.....	.....	10	—	3	2	15	1	3	4	1	24
1935	.....	.....	9	1	1	—	11	2	1	1	1	16

The areas of Residence Distribution of these cases was as follows:—

District	Parish	Number		
		1939	1940	1941
Stannington	Bradfield	 1	 1	 1
Worrall	Bradfield	 1	 1	 1
Boisterstone	Bradfield	 —	 1	 —
Oughtibridge	Bradfield	 —	 4	 —
Dungworth	Bradfield	 —	 2	 —
Chapeltown	Ecclesfield	 4	 3	 1
High Green	Ecclesfield	 2	 3	 —
Ecclesfield	Ecclesfield	 —	 7	 3
Birdwell	Tankersley	 1	 —	 —
Tankersley	Tankersley	 1	 2	 3

Maternal Mortality. There were no maternal deaths during 1941, for the second year in succession. Like 1940 therefore, the maternal mortality rate for this district for 1941 was nil.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS

Disease	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941
Cancer	48	32	47	44	27	38	38
Heart Disease	68	78	75	75	90	101	78
Cerebral Haemorrhage and Other Circulatory Diseases	34	58	29	31	31	52	48
Nephritis	10	19	12	4	5	14	7
Peptic Ulcer and Other Digestive Diseases	16	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	5	4	4	5	3	1	4
Rheumatism	3	3	4	2	1	7	2
Venereal Disease	2	—	—	2	2	—	2
Senility	7	—	—	12	13	2	—
Violence	17	18	11	21	13	16	17
Bronchitis	12	36	12	15	15	20	21
Pneumonia (all forms)	11	26	13	17	20	23	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	3	2	2	3	5	7
Epidemic Diseases	21	11	13	9	8	13	9

Epidemic Diseases. The following table shows the principal causes of death in the Epidemic Diseases group.

Disease	Number		
	1939	1940	1941
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	5
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Typhoid, etc.	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	1	2
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	—	—
Influenza	5	12	2
Smallpox	—	—	—

Inquests were held in 17 instances, and in 18 other instances the cause of death was certified by the Coroner after Post Mortem Examination without Inquest.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis. During the year a total of 655 cases of Infectious Disease were notified. Set out below are tables which are self-explanatory.

Disease	Total Cases				Cases admitted to				Total		
	Notified				our Isolation				Deaths		
	1939	1940	1941	.....	1939	1940	1941	.....	1939	1940	1941
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	.....	—	—	—	.....	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	35	58	32	.....	31	53	35	.....	—	—	—
Diphtheria	52	74	50	.....	45	63	52	.....	—	—	5
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	.....	—	—	1	.....	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	3	3	.....	10	3	—	.....	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Notifiable)	28	49	49	.....	2	—	2	.....	13	26	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	1	.....	2	—	—	.....	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2	14	17	.....	2	10	18	.....	—	1	2
Dysentery	2	27	103	.....	—	—	1	.....	—	—	—
Erysipelas	14	8	7	.....	1	2	1	.....	—	—	—
Measles	1	473	263	.....	1	2	4	.....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	4	129	.....	—	—	4	.....	—	—	—
Malaria (believed to be contracted abroad)	—	1	1	.....	—	—	1	.....	—	—	—
Typhoid .....	—	—	—	.....	—	—	2	.....	—	—	—

Diphtheria. 13 cases notified proved to be negative on bacteriological examination and 5 were “carriers”. One case was diagnosed Pneumonia and 1 Post Diphtheritic Paralysis.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis. 4 cases proved to be negative on bacteriological examination.

Scarlet Fever. 1 case proved to be negative on bacteriological examination.

Typhoid. Both cases proved to be negative on bacteriological examination.

The age distribution of the cases is indicated in the table set out overleaf.

Age Groups		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Puerperal Pyrexia		Ophthalmia Neonatorum		Erysipelas		Cerebro-spinal Meningitis		Dysentery		Measles		Whooping Cough		Malaria		Pneumonia	
	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	D	H	
Under 1 yr.	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	8	—	—	—	
1 to 2 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	11	—	—	—	
2 to 3 yrs.	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	21	—	—	—	
3 to 4 yrs.	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	—	18	—	—	—	
4 to 5 yrs.	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	18	—	—	—	
5 to 10 yrs.	13	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	118	—	48	—	—	—	
10 to 15 yrs.	7	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	—	3	—	—	—	
15 to 20 yrs.	4	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	
20 to 35 yrs.	2	1	4	5	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	
35 to 45 yrs.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
45 to 65 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Over 65 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals (Sub.)	31	1	41	9	—	3	—	—	1	—	7	—	14	3	—	103	260	3	128	1	—	1	31
TOTALS	32	—	50	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	7	—	17	—	103	—	263	—	129	—	1	—	49

D:—Wortley Rural District

H:—Wharnccliffe Emergency Hospital and South Yorkshire Mental Hospital.

AREA OF DISTRIBUTION OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

It will be observed from the table that 139 cases of Infectious Diseases occurred in the Wharnccliffe Emergency Hospital and South Yorkshire Mental Hospital. These are included in the total of 655 for the District.

DISTRICT	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia	Neonatorum	Cerebro-spinal	Meningitis	Dysentery	Measles	Erysipelas	Whooping Cough	Malaria
Ecclesfield Parish													
Ecclesfield	5	7	10	—	—	—	—	5	—	52	3	59	—
Chapelton	3	18	7	1	—	—	—	2	—	90	2	11	—
High Green	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	12	1	3	—
Hesley Lane	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	3	—
Grenoside	7	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	17	—
Tankersley Parish													
Wentworth Station	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hoyland Common	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Tankersley	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	2	—
Birdwell	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Wortley Parish													
Wortley	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Bradfield Parish													
Midhope	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oughtibridge	2	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	19	—
Wharnccliffe Side	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Worrall	2	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	4	—
Loxley	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	26	—	3	—
Stannington	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	28	—	5	—
Dungworth	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hollow Meadows	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	—
Bradfield	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—	—
S.Y.M.H. and W.E.H.	1	9	16	—	—	—	—	3	92	2	—	1	1
TOTAL	32	50	49	3	1	1	17	103	263	7	129	1	

A brief commentary on the statistics for each disease might be helpful.

Scarlet Fever. There was a sharp fall in the incidence of this disease during 1941. The attack rate compares favourably with that for the country as a whole. The cases admitted to hospital were generally of a mild type. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria. During the year 50 notifications of Diphtheria were received, of which 14 proved to be negative on bacteriological examination; 5 were "carriers". Of the remaining 31 positive cases, 9 occurred in one of the larger Institutions in the district, thus giving a net total of "district" cases for the year of 22.

The type seen during the year indicated an infection of a virulent form, many of the victims being critically ill.

Of the cases admitted to hospital, only 1 was reported to have been immunized. This was a patient of 15 years of age who said he had been immunized seven years previously. After careful enquiries I could obtain no official confirmation of this fact, although all circumstantial evidence was in favour of his having received protective treatment.

There were 6 deaths from Diphtheria during the year. One was transferable, making a net total of 5 deaths attributable to this district. Five deaths occurred in the Isolation Hospital.

It is most disturbing to report this loss of child life due to Diphtheria, after the intensive propaganda in favour of immunization. It is difficult to understand the reluctance on the part of some parents and guardians of children, to give them the benefit of this protection. Every effort has been made to appeal to these people, and whether it be sheer diffidence on their part or lack of emphasis in the appeal, something is retarding the response. I must report however, that in this district during 1941, a marked improvement in the demand for immunization was observed. There are records of 794 children having received this protective treatment, of which number, 376 were under 5 years of age. At the time of writing there is no evidence of any falling off in the applications for immunization. The prophylactics principally used were "Alum Precipitated Toxoid" and "Toxoid Anti-toxin Floccules".

It is certain that, if this dread disease is to be eliminated, systematic immunization of all children, and particularly the pre-school child, is imperative. This protection for their children between the ages of 1 year and 16 years is offered, free of cost, to all parents and guardians.

Puerperal Pyrexia. Only three cases were notified during the year and each was admitted to hospital. There were no deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. There was only 1 case of this disease and no impairment of vision resulted.

Measles. During the year 263 cases of Measles were notified. A general decline in the incidence was observed as the year progressed. The figure given only indicates the number of cases notified and does not, I am sure, indicate the number of victims. Investigations made by me and my staff have shown that on several occasions children suffering from this disease have not been seen by a General Practitioner and hence never notified to my department. We have experienced an epidemic of a mild form of measles in this district, but it must be emphasized that this disease is compulsorily notifiable, and to control an outbreak, which in itself is a formidable task, it is necessary that I should be made aware of every case.

There were no deaths from measles during the year, and so far as I can ascertain there were no cases in which any serious complication occurred.

The places chiefly affected during the year were Chapeltown, Ecclesfield, Grenoside, Loxley, Stannington and Bradfield.

Whooping Cough. There were 129 cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year. From what I am informed the type of case was in a moderately severe form. There were no deaths. The age

group chiefly affected was the 5 to 10 years group and the districts principally affected were Ecclesfield Oughtibridge, Stannington, Grenoside, and a few in Chapeltown.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis. There was an increase in the incidence of this disease in 1941. 17 positive cases were notified, 3 of which occurred in one of the large hospitals in the district.

We admitted into our hospital 19 cases suspected to be suffering from this disease. Of this number 6 proved to be negative. There were 2 deaths, or a mortality of roughly 11.7%.

The prevalence of this disease has been fairly general throughout the country, and not unusual in war time. The predisposing factors of overcrowding, indifferent ventilation, fatigue and inclement weather, were all present during the year. The extreme wintry weather, black-out and shelter life in some districts, were a general experience.

Pneumonia. All the 49 cases of Pneumonia notified were Acute Primary Pneumonia. There were no cases of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

Dysentery. All the cases of Dysentery notified were notified from Institutions in the District (viz: 92 from the South Yorkshire Mental Hospital and 11 from Hollow Meadows Institution). There were no "District" cases notified.

Erysipelas. There were only 7 cases of this disease notified during the year. This is the lowest incidence of this disease since 1926 and it would appear that this type of infection, in this District at least, was comparatively rare. It can be seen from the statistics that all Streptococcal infections such as Scarlet Fever, Puerperal Pyrexia or Fever, and Erysipelas all show a decreased incidence.

CLOSING OF SCHOOLS

On account of the prevalence of Infectious Disease in some of the Schools in this District, I found it necessary to recommend that certain Departments in certain Schools should be excluded for varying periods. In every case there was an improvement in the incidence of the disease following the term of exclusion.

The details of the action taken are as follows:—

School	Disease	Period of Exclusion
Grenoside Council School	Whooping Cough	31st Oct. to 10th Nov.
Infant Department	do.	26th Nov. to 5th Dec.

Tuberculosis. During the year under review, 29 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified in the District. Of these 23 were Respiratory Tuberculosis and 6 were other forms of Tuberculosis.

The following table shows the age and sex distribution of the Tuberculosis cases, and the details of the deaths.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—
5 to 15 years	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 years	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
25 to 35 years	1	4	—	1	1	2	—	—
35 to 45 years	6	2	—	—	2	1	—	—
45 to 55 years	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
55 to 65 years	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS	11	12	4	2	6	6	2	1

AREA OF DISTRIBUTION OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES

District	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
Parish of Ecclesfield				
Ecclesfield	5	2	2	1
Chapeltown	—	1	—	—
High Green	2	3	—	1
Grenoside	—	2	1	—
Parish of Tankersley				
Parish of Bradfield	—	—	—	—
Oughtibridge	2	2	—	—
Stannington	1	—	—	—
Bradfield	—	—	1	—
Loxley	—	1	—	—
Worrall	1	—	—	—
Parish of Wortley				
Wortley	—	—	—	—

During the year 9 cases were admitted to Sanatoria for treatment.

One death occurred in a person who had not been previously notified.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis employed in the Milk Trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

From the table it will be observed that 29 new cases have been notified during the year, an increase of 4 over the 1940 figures.

Scabies. The Ministry of Health under Regulation 33A of the Defence (General) Regulations 1939, made an Order dated 28th October 1941, known as the "Scabies Order, 1941" in which increased powers were given to Local Authorities to deal with this disease.

There have been differences of opinion as to whether or not the Order should have included the compulsory notification of this disease, but the considered opinion of the Ministry was that those powers set forth in the Order, if adequately exercised, would be sufficient to control the disease.

Happily, according to my information, this district has been relatively free from Scabies infestation and those cases brought to the notice of my Department have been promptly dealt with so far as it was possible to do so.

The County Medical Officer has requested his Assistant Medical Officers, Health Visitors etc., to notify District Medical Officers of Health of any case of Scabies met by them in the exercise of their duties. In this District, when such notification is received by me, the domicile of the infested person is visited by me or one of my staff, who point out the necessity for adequate treatment. Return visits are made to ensure that the treatment is being carried out. At the same time all clothing, both personal and bed clothing, is removed for thorough steam disinfection.

In practically all cases where instructions have been carried out carefully, good results have been observed.

I feel sure that the establishment of a Scabies Clinic in the District would be essential if the infestation became general, I have considered the possibility of establishing such a Clinic at the Isolation Hospital, but after careful thought have come to the conclusion that we do not have the facilities there for dealing with this condition.

It has been suggested that large numbers of children might be infested with Scabies but that is not my experience in this District. During the whole of 1941 not one child admitted to our Isolation Hospital showed any evidence of infestation by Scabies.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 1941 no outbreaks of any of the non-notifiable Infectious Diseases were recorded. Except for a moderately sharp Influenzal incidence in the more populous part of the District during the short spell of severe weather, there was nothing to report. Two deaths attributable to Influenza were registered during the year.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Isolation Hospitals. There are two Isolation Hospitals provided by the District Council:—

- (1) At Grenoside for the commoner type of Infectious Disease;
- (2) At Hallwood for cases of Smallpox.

At Grenoside, the hospital is roughly divided into sections, one part for Diphtheria and the other part for Scarlet Fever. There are 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 2 cots for Scarlet Fever cases, and 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 3 cots for Diphtheria cases. There is also a cubicle observation block containing 4 cubicles. Available in this block are 7 beds and 1 cot. At Hallwood there are 7 male beds, 7 female beds and 5 cots,

HOSPITALS COMMITTEE, 1941

Councillor	Mrs. E. Hayes (Chairman)
„	Mrs. E. Stevenson (Vice-Chairman)
„	W. J. Leverington, J.P. (Chairman of the Council),
„	Mrs. E. Wragg, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.
„	H. C. Barraclough (Resigned July, 1941)
„	H. E. Boswell
„	F. Chambers, J.P.
„	J. F. Frost
„	W. P. Green
„	T. W. Hulley, J.P.
„	H. Ibbotson
„	A. Lomas
„	D. Mount
„	W. H. Marlow, J.P.
„	G. E. Plant
„	Col. H. S. Walker
„	W. Ward
„	T. Whittington (Elected August, 1941).

Staff:

Medical Superintendent	—Medical Officer of Health
Matron	—Miss C. Major, S.R.N., S.C.M. R.F.N. (Commenced duties 1/3/1941)
Sister	—Miss K. Brayshaw, R.F.N.. (Commenced duties at Sister 1/5/1941)
Staff Nurse	—Miss E. Wiltshire, R.F.N., (Commenced duties 18/9/1941)
Assistant Nurse	—Miss E. Lockwood (Commenced duties 23/8/1941).

There are 6 Probationer (trainee) Nurses, kitchen and domestic staff, 2 gardeners and porters.

During the year under review a total of 130 cases was admitted to hospital, as follows:—

Scarlet Fever or suspected	Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
Diphtheria	„	„	Diphtheria	.....	.....	56
			Pneumonia	.....	.....	2
			Erysipelas	.....	.....	1
			Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	.....	.....	19
			Other cases	.....	.....	17

There were 7 deaths—2 cases of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, and 5 cases of Diphtheria. All the other cases recovered. No cases were admitted to Hallwood during the year 1941.

Laboratory Facilities. All necessary facilities are available at the County Laboratory, Wakefield.

The Ministry of Health, in a letter dated 5th September, 1939, informed Medical Officers of Health that in consultation with the Medical Research Council, an Emergency Laboratory Service had been organized for general bacteriological and diagnostic work. This is a war measure devised to augment the existing Laboratories in case of any emergency. The emergency laboratories for the Midlands and North of England have been established at:—Barnard Castle, Kirby Lonsdale, Pocklington, Wellington, Lincoln: and these are being staffed by arrangement with existing laboratories at:—Newcastle, Leeds, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool and Birmingham. The latter will continue to provide the same services as in normal times.

I have had no information amending the above service, which it is presumed, is still functioning.

Bacteriological Examinations were made by the County Laboratory of 372 specimens (269 from the Isolation Hospital, Grenoside, and 103 from other parts of the district) during 1941. They were as follows:

	Isolation Hospital	District
Sputa for Tubercle Baccilli	 5	19
Swabs for B. Diphtheriae	 184	62
Urine and Faeces for		
B. Typhosus, etc.	 4	6
Urines for general examination	 1	1
Blood Films for Cytological		
Examination	 —	3
Blood Sera for Widal Reaction	 —	1
Biochemical specimens	 6	3
Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci	62	2
Urines for Zondek Asheim Reaction	—	3
Miscellaneous specimens	 7	3
	269	103

Ambulance Facilities. For Infectious cases the District Council provide two motor ambulances. During the year the Council purchased a new motor ambulance for infectious diseases cases. This ambulance is fitted with the most modern equipment. For the transport of cases of infectious disease it is essential that the patients should be as little disturbed as possible. The new ambulance ensures this and I thank the Council for the immediate granting of my request for this magnificent vehicle.

The old ambulance has been repainted and is kept in running order so that it can be put into use if the new vehicle is out of commission and if the type of case to be transported is one which would be suitable for transport in that vehicle.

In the event of their ambulances being out of commission, this Council have an arrangement with Sheffield Corporation for the use of one of their fleet attached to Lodge Moor Isolation Hospital at a charge of 2s.6d. per mile for the mileage covered out and home.

Ambulance facilities for cases of sickness are provided by the Sheffield Central Ambulance Services for all contributors to the 1d. in the £ Scheme of the Sheffield Joint Hospitals and for all necessitous poor and old age pensioners. The Sheffield Central Ambulance Services are available for non-contributors in the district for any case of sickness as the result of the District Council making an annual contribution to the Service. All street and road accidents are dealt with by the police.

By arrangement with the Sheffield Corporation all domestic casualties requiring hospitalisation can be removed as part of the arrangement with the Central Ambulance Services.

Clinics. In the area there are eight Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. They are at Ecclesfield, Grenoside, High Green, Tankersley, Oughtibridge, Stannington, and Loxley. The clinic at Stocksbridge is available for those resident in that part of the parish of Bradfield nearest to Stocksbridge.

Hallshire Maternity Home. The County Council have built a Maternity Home at Chapeltown, which was opened on the 2nd November, 1940. This most modern and up-to-date hospital, magnificently equipped has 22 beds for the admission of cases from the administrative County. Arrangements can be made for the admission of private cases.

Ante-natal Clinics are held at Chapeltown and High Green.

Tuberculosis. The greater part of the District is served by the Dispensary at Wadsley Bridge. For those patients in that part of Bradfield nearest to Stocksbridge, the dispensary there is available, while the Barnsley Dispensary is available for patients from the Tankersley district.

Mortuary. The public mortuary and post-mortem room at Grenoside belonging to the District Council, is available for the whole area.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supply. The rainfall for the year, recorded at the Sewage Works, Ecclesfield (172 feet above Ordnance datum) was 31.19 inches. This figure is substantially higher than that for 1940 and exceeds the average for the past 15 years, which is 29.74 inches.

The driest months were April, June, September and December.

Twelve samples of water were taken from private supplies—3 of these proved to be unsatisfactory and the owners of the supplies were notified accordingly. Four samples were taken from the Hallbroom supply and four from the supply at High Bradfield. All these were satisfactory.

During the year, owing to mechanical breakdown of the pumping apparatus at Hallbroom, water was pumped from Royds Clough to make up the deficiency, and a sample was taken from the latter supply. Although this sample proved to be unsatisfactory, a further sample taken after chlorination proved to be quite safe for drinking purposes.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. There were no extensions during the year and no alterations were carried out to any of the sewage works.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION AND SCAVENGING

The following table shows the number of houses, water closets, privies, etc, in the District at the end of the year:—

Locality	Houses	Water Closets	Privies	Pail Closets	Ash- pits	Ash- bins
Ecclesfield	1484	1218	62	1	140	1219
Chapelton and High Green	2723	2289	116	—	246	2277
Grenoside	743	539	126	—	156	510
Thorpe	157	69	43	—	42	44
Total						
Ecclesfield Parish	5107	4115	347	1	584	4050
Wadsley	43	26	2	—	6	42
Worrall	279	216	33	—	37	210
Oughtibridge	822	650	60	2	114	573
Wharnccliffe Side	224	169	33	—	58	141
Loxley	308	191	88	—	93	178
Stannington	882	572	183	7	173	577
Bradfield	99	8	69	4	59	10
Hollow Meadows	39	23	14	6	16	10
Midhope	44	2	32	8	26	1
Rest of Bradfield	136	11	98	25	100	—
Total						
Bradfield Parish	2876	1868	612	52	682	1742
Tankersley Parish	559	490	76	4	99	418
Wortley Parish	187	108	97	—	83	51
Grand Totals	8729	6581	1132	57	1448	6261

Privy Conversions. During the year 8 privies were replaced by 14 water closets and 5 ashpits by 17 ashbins. One waste water closet was replaced by 3 modern water closets.

At Wharnccliffe Side Council School 9 pails were abolished, and 9 w.c's substituted.

Scavenging. The scavenging staff consists of 18 loaders, 5 drivers and 3 tip controllers, one of the latter being employed part-time. One of the drivers is hired full time together with his lorry for scavenging the Tankersley and Wortley parishes. With the exception of a few outlying houses in the Bradfield district, the whole district is publicly scavenged, mechanical transport being utilized throughout.

Six vehicles are employed for this purpose, and of these five are owned by the Council. All refuse collected is disposed of by controlled tipping and owing to the scattered distribution of the populated areas in the district, it is necessary on economical grounds to utilize a minimum of six tips. These tips are maintained in good order by specially engaged staff and no complaints have been received of any nuisances arising therefrom.

Approximately 10,240 tons of refuse have been collected, transported to the tips and disposed of at a cost of £6,162 7s. 2d.

These figures are equivalent to an approximate weight of 1.17 tons and an approximate cost of 14/- per household per annum.

The tonnage of refuse dealt with is slightly lower than last year's figure (10,330 tons) whilst the cost is rather higher than last year (£4,995). These variations are accounted for by a stricter economy in the use of fuel, and the separation of salvage from the refuse on the one hand, and increased staff and a general increase in wages on the other.

Despite the heavy calls made on the service by salvage work, scavenging for the military and the calling up of experienced workmen, the service has been fully and satisfactorily maintained.

Arrangements have now been made for this service to deal with the scavenging of all the public shelters in the district.

Salvage. There have been no major alterations in our arrangements so far as salvage of waste is concerned, during 1941.

Salvage collection continues to form a substantial part of the scavenging arrangements in the district and the bulk of the salvaged material is separated at the place of collection. A quantity of loose tins, together with small amounts of paper and bones, are, however, extracted from the refuse on the tips by the tip controllers.

The hutments at Pack Horse Lane, Mortomley, and Mill Road, Ecclesfield, continue to serve as baling and storage depots, one man being employed at each.

The materials salvaged during the year consisted of waste paper, non-ferrous and ferrous metals (including light tins), rags, bones, and glass jars. Some of the glass jars were supplied free of charge to Volunteer Fruit Preserving Organizations in the District, and all the remaining commodities were disposed of to merchants.

Except in the case of loose tins, no difficulty has been experienced in disposing of the materials salvaged. Large stocks of these tins had accumulated at the refuse tips and no economical market could be found for them in their loose state. Towards the end of the year, however, a better offer was received for crushed tins, and an experiment with one of the Council's heavy steam rollers was carried out. The costs of roller, extra haulage and labour, were difficult to assess, but there was certainly no pecuniary loss on the sale so far as the Council were concerned.

During September, a Salvage Drive was organized to cover the whole of Yorkshire, and Mr. J. C. Chambers, Sanitary Inspector, was invited to serve on the Executive Committee. Returns were submitted by 153 Local Authorities, including 49 Rural areas and the following are a few extracts from the returns:—

	Average Monthly Value per 1000 population for June, July & August	September Value per 1000 population
Yorkshire	£5.8	£9.3
49 Rural Districts	£1.9	£3.7
Wortley Rural District	£1.7	£4.0

It will be seen from the above statistics that the returns for this District were similar to the average for the 49 Rural Districts in the County.

A total of approximately 220 tons of waste material valued at £302 was disposed of during the year. These figures are similar to those of last year and represent approximately a weight of 56 lbs. and a value of 1/10d. per household for the year. Private organizations have collected small quantities of paper and scrap but full details are not available.

The following table gives details of the year's sales compared with those for 1940:—

Commodity	Salvage Statistics for 1941						Salvage Statistics for 1940					
	Weight			Value			Weight			Value		
	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Paper (Council)	162	3	1	699	19	5½	146	1	2½	578	7	4½
Paper (Private)	6	2	2	—	—	—	1	15	0	—	—	—
Scrap (Ferrous)	15	15	1	41	10	6½	61	7	0	138	1	11½
Scrap (Non-Ferrous)	—	11	1¾	19	10	7	—	13	1¼	23	7	8
Scrap (Tins)	23	0	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	17	2
Bones	8	8	8½	25	11	11	4	13	2	10	16	6
Rags	3	18	2	15	14	0	4	0	0	—	—	—
TOTALS	219	19	3¼	802	6	6	218	10	1¾	764	10	8

Nuisances. During the year, 1,501 visits were made for the detection and abatement of nuisances and the supervision of work in progress. The number of nuisances dealt with, including 8 outstanding from last year, was 154, and of these 144 were abated.

140 informal notices were served, and 130 were complied with.

Three statutory notices were served, and the works specified therein were carried out.

The 154 nuisances reported during the year comprised:—

- 52 choked and defective drains;
- 43 choked and defective water closets;
- 41 defective roofs, spouting, etc.
- 14 defective ashbins;
- 3 defective privies; and
- 1 other nuisance.

VERMINOUS HOUSES

The methods employed for the treatment of premises infested by bed bugs and cockroaches during the year have been on similar lines to those employed in the past two years. Zaldecide is used where a liquid insecticide is called for and sulphur compounds when the use of gas is more suitable.

During the year 371 visits were made to 166 Council and 19 privately owned houses in the District for the purpose of detecting vermin. The number of visits shows a slight increase on last year, due to the repeated requests of tenants of Council houses for the provision of insect powder. Although undoubtedly many of our Council houses have been infested with cockroaches for some considerable time, the tenants have been unable to purchase sufficient proprietary insect powder owing to the cost involved. These householders are now aware of the Council's willingness to supply insecticide free of charge, this accounting for the repeated requests.

The following table gives details of inspections carried out during the year:—

WARD	No. of Visits	No. of Houses Council Private	Houses found to be		Cock- Houses Sprayed	Houses Stoved	Insect- icide left	
			Verminous Bugs	roach- es				
Chapelton	28	11	2	1	9	1	—	9
High Green	163	69	3	5	65	5	—	65
Ecclesfield	63	25	6	4	21	2	4	21
Grenoside	24	10	2	4	7	—	4	7
Tankersley	10	4	2	1	2	1	—	2
Westnall	76	42	4	8	34	8	—	34
Stannington	7	5	—	—	5	—	—	5
TOTALS	371	166	19	23	143	17	8	143

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. Forty-three complaints were received regarding the infestation of premises by rats and mice. These cases were investigated, suitable bait given, and persons concerned advised as to how the vermin could be best eradicated. New types of rat bait have now replaced the old red squill bait which can be used with less discretion than those containing arsenic and phosphorus. Only occasional traces of rats are found on the refuse tips as they are now controlled.

Shops Act, 1934. Thirty-six inspections were made under the above Act during the year. There are 105 shops on the register and all have suitable sanitary accommodation, and comply generally with the health provisions of the Act.

Moveable Dwellings. The number of moveable dwellings at present in the district is approximately 50. These structures are inhabited at weekends and 90 visits have been made to ensure that the occupants are complying with the requirements.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply. During the year 577 inspections of the cow sheds and dairies in the district were made. Twenty-two notices were served on cow-keepers to cleanse and lime-wash the premises and all were complied with.

The following are the details of the classification of premises and purveyors in the district:—

Registered Cow-keepers	.....	.....	.....	218
Producer retailers	.....	.....	.....	193
Producer wholesalers	.....	.....	.....	25
Retailers only	.....	.....	.....	26

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938, 1 licence is in force for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk, and 13 for Accredited milk. Three supplementary licences to sell Pasteurized milk were issued by the District Council.

During the year 33 samples were taken from 14 of the above farms and 14 were found to be unsatisfactory. Shortage of labour undoubtedly contributed to the cause of so many bad samples.

Meat Inspection. The only animals slaughtered for human consumption in this area are pigs and sheep slaughtered under the Ministry of Food Circular F.I.G. 107 for the feeder's personal use only.

155 pigs have been slaughtered during the year and inspection of the carcasses was carried out. One carcase was found to be unfit for human consumption, and the owner agreed that it should be destroyed.

HOUSING

Forty-nine dwellings were completed in the District during the year. Of these, 41 were built by the Sheffield Corporation and 8 by private enterprise. The following table explains the distribution of these:—

Erected at	Erected by District Council	Erected by Private Snterprise	Totals
Chapeltown	—	2	2
Bradfield	—	1	1
Stannington	—	4	4
Grenoside	—	1	1
Ecclesfield	—	41 *	41 *
Totals	—	49	49

* The 41 dwellings at Ecclesfield were constructed for Sheffield Corporation and form part of one of their large housing estates.

The total number of houses erected by the District Council remains at 1,334, which figure includes the hutments at Ecclesfield, Chapeltown and High Green, none of which are now used as dwellings.

Since 1930, 2,119 houses have been built by private enterprise. The distribution of these houses is as follows:—

	By Council	By Private Enterprise
Ecclesfield Parish		
Ecclesfield	298	413
High Green	333	(390
Chapeltown	220	(
Grenoside	63	312
Thorpe Hesley	—	6
Bradfield Parish		
Oughtibridge	154	158
Worrall	18	142
Stannington	84	381
Loxley	50	57
Dungworth	8	4
Middlewood	—	74
Wadsley	—	5
Wha ncliffe Side	—	70
Other parts of the Parish	—	38
Tankersley Parish	106	58
Wortley Parish	—	11
TOTALS	1334	2119

Eight empty houses were requisitioned under the Defence Regulations for the use of families rendered homeless by enemy action. All these houses were the subject of Demolition or Compulsory Purchase Orders. Sufficient repairs were carried out to make them temporarily habitable. Licences for the use of these houses for this purpose are necessary from the Ministry of Health, and these require renewal every six months.

Building Byelaws. During the year 60 plans were approved under the above byelaws. Of this number 12 were concerned with the erection of greenhouses and toolsheds, 8 referred to garages 18 to extensions or additions to factories 4 to pigstyes cartsheds and extensions to cow-houses. Of the remainder, 3 related to drainage works. 3 to additions and alterations to existing buildings, 2 to porches, 2 to canteens, 1 each to a radio test station, fire station, gate house. larder, bakehouse, urinal, coalplace, and conversion of a barn into a cornmill.

Factories. There are 73 factories registered in the district under the Factories Act, 1937, and of these 63 utilise mechanical power.

At one factory in the District, 8 privies were abolished and 9 pedestal water closets provided. Eleven washbowls were also installed on these premises.

